REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of this application are respectfully requested. New claims 22-35 have been added. Claims 1-35 are now pending in the application. The rejections are respectfully submitted to be obviated in view of the remarks presented herein.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) - Warmus et al. in view of Adobe PageMaker

Claims 1-21 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Warmus et al. (U.S. Patent Number 6,332,149 B1) (hereinafter "Warmus"), in view of Adobe PageMaker (copyright 1996) ("PageMaker"). The rejection is respectfully traversed.

Regarding claim 1, Applicants' claimed invention relates to a method of creating data for printing through page editing operation. A determination is made if there are any parts of a page that has not been received at the time of page editing, and dummy parts data is created for the unreceived parts. The dummy parts data is inserted in the place of unreceived parts in the page position allocated for the unreceived parts, creating dummy page data. The dummy parts data is replaced by received parts data when the unreceived parts data is received, thus creating page data for printing.

Turning to the cited art, Warmus discloses the reproduction of images on a display device using master and variable information for creating different versions of a book. Different versions may contain additional pages or other customized information. Warmus' system has one set of template data for each section or version of a book, each set of template data including master data representing fixed information and area data in which variable information is to be printed. An area of a page is selected for reproduction of variable data therein, and name or field

information is inserted into the template file as an insertion point definition. A dummy file along with an indication of the field name is inserted into the template file, such that a user will see the dummy file at the insertion point of the display when the page is viewed (col. 11, line 62 through col. 12, line 35.) A database is developed having entries representing variable information, specifying the locations on particular pages for the variable information (col. 8, lines 3-7). The display device displays the sets of template data with selected variable information (summary, col. 3, line 32 through col. 4, line 35). The variable information is reproduced on the corresponding pages as stored in the template files. Warmus incorporates blocks of process images and text in the template files. When variable information is found in a template file and includes a field name of the database, the image or text box is deleted from the template file and replaced with the field name from the database (col. 13, line 24 through col. 14, line 42). This process "fills in" placeholder information on a page with information from the database field (col. 14, lines 58-63). Essentially, different versions of a book may be produced from multiple templates merging data with a database of variable information. Fixed information in the template file does not change, while variable information is linked to information stored in the database. Corresponding pages would differ in terms of the variable information stored in the database, and in some cases, would differ from fixed information depending on the design of the template files.

The Examiner maintains that the combination of Warmus and PageMaker teaches each feature of independent claim 1. However, Warmus does not determine if any parts of the page has not received corresponding parts data by the time of a page editing operation, as claimed in Applicants' invention. There is no unreceived parts data in Warmus. Instead, Warmus stores

data in a database with which information is merged with templates representing different versions or customizations of a book. Additionally, Warmus does not receive unreceived parts data to replace dummy parts data. The data in Warmus is already stored in a database ready for merging. Warmus' merging operation searches through the template and substitutes all instances of variable information with a linked image or text box which is stored in the database. Once the template has been processed completely and all image and text boxes in the template have been deleted and replaced with the field name and locations of selected corresponding variable data from the database, the resulting template file is saved as a stripped master file. Processing is completed and no unreceived parts exist. All fixed and variable information is generated upon creation of the database and template files. Warmus' process does not later receive the previously unreceived parts data and replace the dummy parts data, as described in claim 1.

The Examiner's general reliance on insertion of a "dummy picture file" ignores Warmus' disclosure which states that the dummy indicates the proper database field name. Col. 12, lines 14-18. Because the dummy file actually has an associated database name, it cannot correspond to data unreceived. If the file has a name, then the data was obviously received.

PageMaker does nothing to remedy the deficiencies of Warmus. PageMaker teaches a user of this software how to replace text and graphics in a computer generated presentation template. Existing text and graphics may be used as placeholders, which may be replaced with a new text or image, respectively. However, there is also no teaching in PageMaker of determining if any parts of the page has not received corresponding parts data by the time of a page editing operation, as claimed in Applicants' invention. Nor does PageMaker teach creating dummy page data by inserting dummy parts data for unreceived parts data in a position on the

page allocated for the unreceived parts data. Even if PageMaker's existing text and graphics is equated to Applicants' dummy page data, there is no reception of parts data which was not received at the time of the page editing operation. At least by virtue of the aforementioned differences, the invention defined by Applicants' claim 1 is patentable over Warmus in view of PageMaker. Applicants' claims 2-9 are dependent claims including all of the limitations of independent claim 1, which, as established above, distinguishes over Warmus in view of PageMaker. Therefore, claims 2-9 are distinguished over Warmus in view of PageMaker for at least the aforementioned reasons as well as for their additionally recited features. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) are respectfully requested.

With further regard to claim 3, this claim describes that the dummy data has associated first information where data is expected to be stored. Since each of Warmus and PageMaker presuppose that all data is already received and stored, the references lack this characteristic first information as described by claim 3. The Examiner's reliance on cols. 11-13 does not address this characteristic. Claim 13 is allowable for analogous reasons.

Regarding claim 10, Applicants' claimed invention is a corresponding apparatus of method claim 1, and is allowable over Warmus in view of PageMaker for the same reasons as discussed above. Applicants' claims 12-20 are dependent claims including all of the limitations of independent claim 10, which, as established above, distinguishes over Warmus in view of PageMaker. Therefore, claims 12-20 are distinguished over Warmus in view of PageMaker for at least the aforementioned reasons as well as for their additionally recited features.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) are respectfully requested.

Regarding claim 21, Applicants' claimed invention relates to a system for creating printing data during page editing and layout. Applicants' system comprises a data processing arrangement including a logic portion and another logic portion. The logic potion creates dummy parts data having link information for unreceived parts data, with the link information linking the dummy parts data with a storage location in a data processing arrangement. Dummy parts data is inserted in a position on the page allocated for the unreceived parts data. The another logic portion operates in background monitoring the storage location in the data processing arrangement, and replaces the dummy parts data with the parts data in accordance with the link information, when parts data is stored at the storage location.

Applicants' claimed invention is allowable over Warmus in view of PageMaker for the same reasons as discussed above. Additionally, Warmus in view of PageMaker fail to disclose another logic portion monitoring the storage location and replacing dummy parts data with parts data in accordance with link information, when parts data is stored at the storage location. At least by virtue of the aforementioned differences, the invention defined by Applicants' claim 21 is patentable over Warmus in view of PageMaker. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) are respectfully requested.

Newly Added Claims

Claims 22-35 are newly added by this Amendment and are believed to be in condition for allowance.

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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